

THE GENUS *OZOCTENUS* PASCOE
(COLEOPTERA, CURCULIONIDAE)HANS REICHARDT AND SERGIO A. VANIN¹

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ABSTRACT

Ozoctenus vaurieae n. sp. (type-locality, Brazil, State of São Paulo, Caraguatatuba) is described from several localities in southeastern Brazil. The new species is compared to the 2 other known species of the genus, *Ozoctenus jubatus* Pascoe (from the Amazonian Region) and *Ozoctenus dufau* Hustache (from Guadeloupe), and a key is presented.

While trying to interpret some structures of *Camarotus* (Attelabidae), in the course of a monographic work, one of us (Reichardt 1971:102) discovered that the species of a completely unrelated genus, *Ozoctenus* Pascoe, had the hind femora expanded into a serrate tooth similar to that of the front femora of *Camarotus*. We have since found similar structures in other unrelated weevils, and even in different families (e.g., the cerambycid genus *Plectromerus* LeConte and in some Bruchidae). In Bruchidae the structure is quite common, and apparently all intermediate situations between a simple and a serrate tooth are found. The function of the serrate tooth, if any, remains a puzzle. Its occurrence on different legs (in *Camarotus* and *Prionomerus* it appears on front legs; in all other cases seen it has developed on hind legs), and in quite distinct groups (though all considered as belonging into the Phytophagoidea), seems to indicate adaptation to some kind of common behavior, perhaps the grasping of edges of leaves.

Reichardt (1971:101, Fig. 1) has shown that in *Prionomerus* the serrate tooth is quite irregular and different from that of *Camarotus*. In the 3 species of *Ozoctenus* the serrate tooth is a very regular structure (Fig. 3), similar to that of *Camarotus*, including the presence of a curved seta between denticles. The sexual dimorphism, of the apical spines of the corresponding tibiae, is absent in *Ozoctenus*.

By scanning the material of *Ozoctenus* more closely, we concluded that the species at hand did not fit the descriptions of either *Ozoctenus jubatus* Pascoe, 1871 (type-species) or *Ozoctenus dufau* Hustache, 1929. Through the kindness of Dr. R. T. Thompson, British Museum (Natural History), London, we received a paratype of each of the known species. It was disclosed that the species from southeastern Brazil is actually a distinct, undescribed species of the small genus.

Relationships of *Ozoctenus* within the Hylobiini seem rather difficult to establish. Marshall (1932) rearranged the whole group, placing the genus in the Orthorrhina, it being the only New World representative of a subtribe which otherwise only includes *Orthorrhinus* Schoenherr, a genus widely distributed in Wallacea and Australia. The Orthorrhina are distinguished from

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the other Hylobiini by the "front coxae separated" (Marshall 1932:346). We have compared *Ozoctenus* with *Heilipus* (Hylobiina), and could not see too much difference. Unfortunately no other Orthorrhina were available for study, and thus we are unable to decide whether the current placement of *Ozoctenus* is correct. Marshall could hardly have been mistaken, since he based his studies on the British Museum collections, and must therefore have seen *Ozoctenus*.

The studied material belongs to the Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo (MZSP) and the Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba (DZUP). One paratype each is being deposited in the American Museum of Natural History, New York (AMNH) and the British Museum (Natural History), London (BMNH).

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Ozoctenus vaurieae Reichardt & Vanin, NEW SPECIES

(Fig. 1-4)

Holotype male. BRAZIL, SÃO PAULO: Caraguatatuba, Reserva Florestal, 40 m, 2-IV-1962 (Martins, Reichardt & Silva) (MZSP).

Paratypes. BRAZIL, SÃO PAULO: same data as holotype (1 female, MZSP); same locality, II-1963 (F. Werner, Martins & Silva) (1 male, BMNH); Embu, 15-II-1946, 6-II-1972, 5-III-1972 (F. Lane) (2 males, 1 female, MZSP; 1 female, AMNH); Itanhaem, 1-5-V-1961 (U. Martins) (1 female, MZSP). MINAS GERAIS: Serra do Caraça, 1,380 m, XI-1961 (Kloss, Lenko, Martins, & Silva) (1 male, MZSP). ESPÍRITO SANTO: Linhares, Parque Nacional Sooretama, XI-1967 (F. M. Oliveira) (1 male, 1 female, DZUP; 1 female, MZSP). GOIÁS: Pirineus, 2-II-1962 (J. Bechyné) (1 female, MZSP).

MALE. Dark brown, head and prothorax nearly black; head with a few scattered, ochraceous scales on upper part of rostrum, between and above eyes; pronotum with brown scales, particularly dense on disc and on sides, and some more elongate scales along anterior margin; scutellum with dense cover of testaceous scales; elytral scales not as dark as on pronotum, more or less testaceous on disc, darker near base and on apical declivity, except for a transverse band of lighter scales in middle of declivity (in some specimens somewhat obscured); ventral parts of thorax and abdominal sternites with sparse, testaceous scales; femora and tibiae with more or less sparse, also testaceous scales; on the posterior, dentate femora, the scales are denser.

HEAD. Rostrum almost straight, only slightly longer than frons, very little widened towards apex, with antennal scrobes lateral and oblique, reaching lower margin of eyes; anterior surface rugose, the rugosity forming irregular, longitudinal ridges. Frons rugose; vertex microrugose. Eyes nearly circular, with coarse facets; separated from each other by about as much as eye width. PRONOTUM only slightly wider than long, widest slightly in front of middle; then abruptly narrowed and with almost parallel sides to front margin; from widest point little but regularly narrowed towards base; posterior margin curved toward scutellum in the middle. Median longitudinal keel only little prominent, extending from anterior margin to just beyond middle; edge of keel smooth, shiny and black. Ocular lobes faintly indicated. SCUTELLUM small,

quadrangular, longer than wide. ELYTRA with nearly parallel sides, only slightly wider than pronotum, and a little widened behind the middle, and then more or less abruptly narrowed, forming an obtuse, rounded, pre-apical angle; posterior margin almost transverse; sutural angles rounded. Punctate-striate, the punctures widely spaced, each bearing a scale different from normal scales; punctures feebly visible on disc, deeper on sides; interstice I (sutural) with about 10 small, conic tubercles; III with an elongate tubercle near base and about 7 conical tubercles from second third towards apex; IV with 3-4 tubercles on declivity; V with more irregular and less developed tubercles; VI with fewer tubercles, those of the declivity better developed,

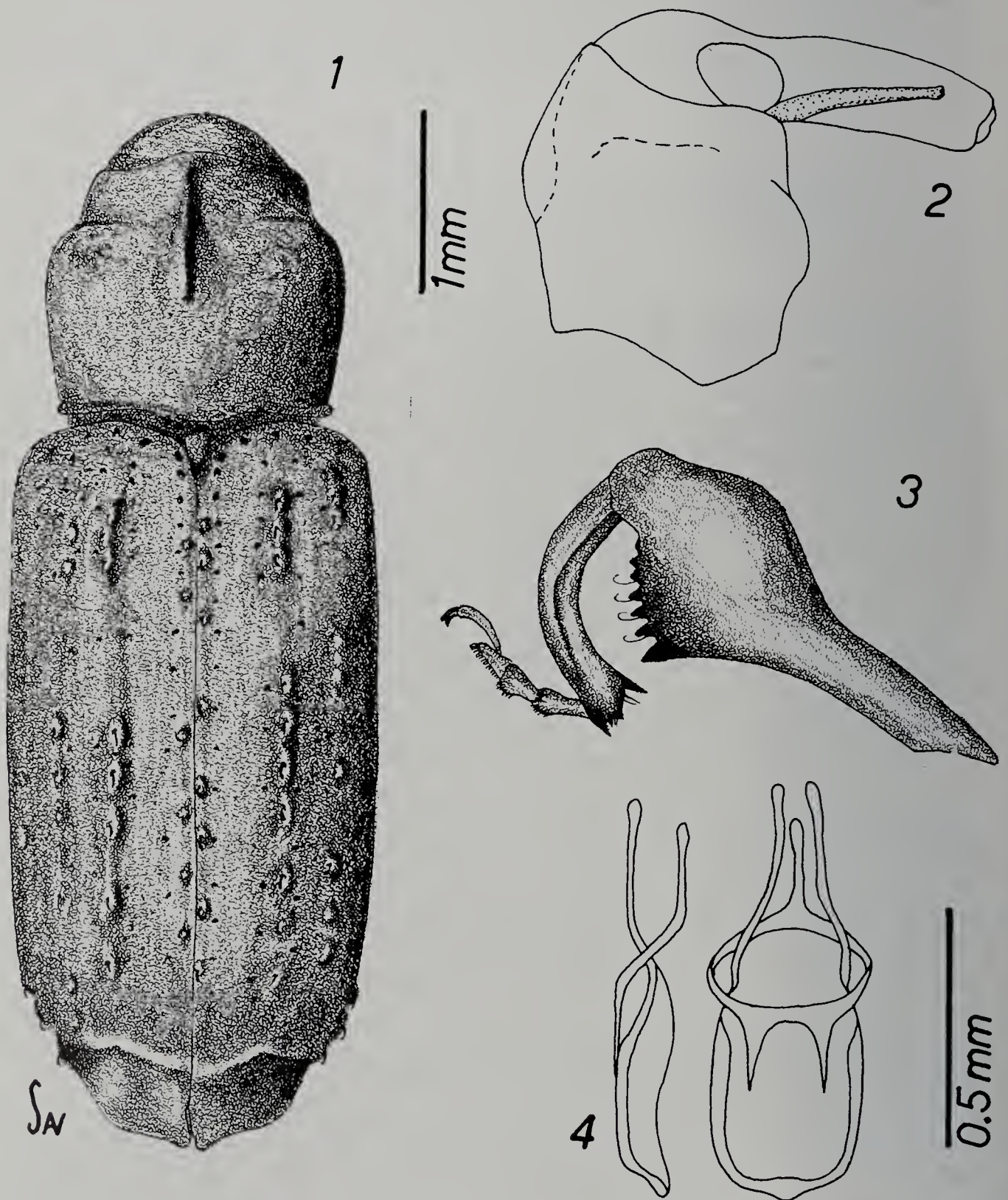


Fig. 1-4. *Ozoctenus vaurieae* n. sp., holotype: 1) dorsal view, 2) lateral view of head and pronotum, 3) hind leg, 4) male genitalia.

where they form a larger and irregular elevation together with the tubercles of IV and V. Apically each tubercle with a black, setiform, posteriorly bent scale. ABDOMEN: sternite I with median, longitudinal depression; II with 4 obtuse, conic tubercles placed in a transverse line. Suture between sternites I and II distinct. LEGS: femora clavate, anterior and middle ones with large, internal spine; posterior ones with larger spine, with internal margin finely dentate (6 to 7 denticles); anterior and median tibiae curved, with apical, unciform tooth; posterior ones more curved, external margin regularly curved, with 1 apical external unciform tooth and another, larger, pre-apical internal tooth. Tarsi normal.

FEMALE. Rostrum smooth, shiny, without longitudinal ridges and narrower than in male.

MEASUREMENTS: total length (pronotum and elytra), 3.1-5.1 (4.0) mm; width, 1.1-2.1 (1.4) mm.

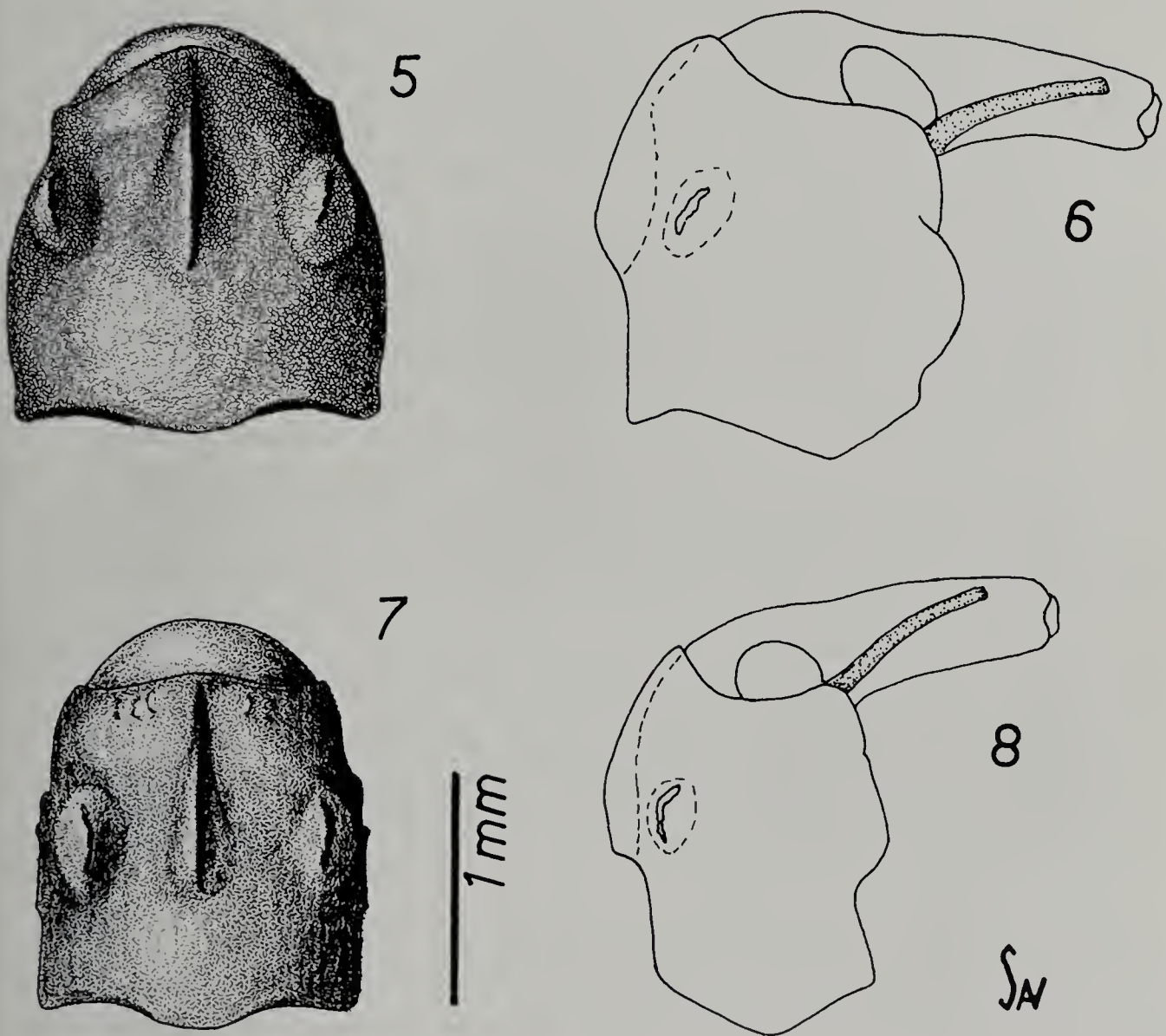


Fig. 5-6. *Ozoctenus dufau* Hustache, paratype: 5) dorsal view of pronotum, 6) lateral view of head and pronotum.

Fig. 7-8. *Ozoctenus jubatus* Pascoe, paratype: 7) dorsal view of pronotum, 8) lateral view of head and pronotum.

DISCUSSION

This new species is readily distinguished from the 2 other known species of the genus by the pronotum, which lacks the 2 lateral tubercles present in *jubatus* (Fig. 7) and *dufaui* (Fig. 5). Furthermore the pronotum is slightly wider than long, while in *dufaui* it is about as long as wide, and in *jubatus* it is longer than wide. The pronotal keel is less evident in *Ozoctenus vaurieae*; besides, as in *jubatus*, the tubercles of interstice III do not form a continuous and elongate tubercle, typical of *dufaui*. In *vaurieae* abdominal sternite II bears 4 more or less well developed tubercles, while *jubatus* has the indication of only 2, and *dufaui* lacks tubercles.

Ozoctenus vaurieae is quite variable in size and coloration. Some specimens are very dark brown, while others tend to be much lighter, because of lighter colored scales.

We take pleasure in naming this species after Mrs. Patricia Vaurie, weevil taxonomist at the American Museum of Natural History.

KEY TO SPECIES OF *Ozoctenus*

1. Pronotum with median longitudinal keel well developed from anterior margin to beyond middle, and 2 lateral elevations. Suture between abdominal sternites I and II poorly indicated, only visible laterally; surface of sternites not coarsely punctate, without sparse scales; sternite II without clearly indicated elevations 2
- 1'. Pronotum only with median longitudinal keel (Fig. 1). Suture between abdominal sternites I and II well indicated and deep; sternites coarsely punctate, each puncture with a single scale; sternite II with 4 conical tubercles in a transverse row. Brazil (Goiás, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais and São Paulo)..... *vaurieae* n. sp.
- 2(1). Pronotal keel (in profile) abruptly ending behind middle (Fig. 8). III elytral interstice with an elongate tubercle near base and several small, dentiform and isolated tubercles posteriorly. Interstices IV-VII with dentiform tubercles similar to those of III on posterior third. Denticles of posterior femora as long as wide at base. Brazil (Amazonas).....
..... *jubatus* Pascoe
- 2'. Pronotal keel, in profile, smoothly and evenly ending behind middle (Fig. 6). III elytral interstice with irregular but continuous keel, only interrupted anteriorly. Interstices IV-VII without evident dentiform tubercles on posterior third. Denticles of posterior femora longer than wide at base. Guadeloupe..... *dufaui* Hustache

REFERENCES

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